

Series "Entrusted With The Truth"
"Church Conduct"
1 Timothy 3:14-16
Study-9

1 Tim 2-3 – The Church and Its Members:

1. Verses 14-15 – The Reason Paul Wrote

2. Verse 15 – The Nature Of The Church

3. Verse 16 – The Substance Of Christian Truth

1. Verses 14-15 – The Reason Paul Wrote:

1 Tim 3:14

1 Timothy 1:3

"these things to you" – What Things Is Paul Referring to? 1 Timothy 1: The Importance of Maintaining "True or Sound Doctrine" and "Refuting False Doctrine."

1 Tim 2-3 – "God's Order For Men And Women In Public Worship."

"hoping to come to you before long;" – In fact, his return was imminent, "shortly"

1 Tim 3:15

"delayed," – "to be slow"; Paul says 2X he is coming, 1 Tim 3:14-15; 4:13

Paul's Purpose For Writing: "you may know how one ought to conduct himself..." – that you may know how men ought to behave themselves."

"conduct" – sometimes translated "conversation"; it is speaking about "lifestyle", That which one says and that which one does.

2. Verse 15 – The Nature Of The Church:

1 Tim 3:15

"how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God," – "The Very Nature of the Church Calls for Godliness!"

The Nature Of The Church Is Described In 3 Ways:

1. The House of God: "in the household of God," – The church is the "house of God." This title emphasizes the place where God dwells. God is the master of this house!

Church is God's House – 1 Cor 3:16; 1 Peter 2:5

Church is God's Household – Heb 3:5-6; 1 Peter 4:17

The Old Testament – tabernacle Moses and the temple Solomon

The Gospel era – Jesus identified the second temple, (John 2:16), as the house of God the Father.

In this age – God manifests His indwelling presence in redeemed people. The body of each believer serves as the temple of God (I Cor. 3:16-17). Christians are being built as a "spiritual house" (I Peter 2:5).

The Church Family Must Be Fed: and the only diet that will nourish the people is the Word of God.

Like a Family, a Church Needs Discipline in Love. Ephesians 4:15

Application – To The House of God: Being part of God's house means having a refuge, and the Father's protection. Our love for God and love for each other, along with our mutual submission, should cause the world to long to be part of God's House.

2. The Church of the Living God: "which is the church of the living God," – The term "Church" (ekklēsia) literally means "a called-out group, the called out ones." It describes persons that God has called out of the world system to belong to Him.

Used of The local Church – Rom. 16:5 used about 100 times in the New Testament

Used of The Universal Church – Eph. 1:22-23 includes all believers from the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost to the return of Christ for His own.

Ephesians 1:21-23

"living God," – Psalm 42:2

Application – Church of The Living God: What makes the Church different from all other gatherings or institutions is that the living God dwells within it! Being called out of the world to dwell with God, mandates holy living.

3. The Pillar and Support of the Truth: "the pillar and support of the truth."

The truth, centered in Christ's person and work, gave birth to the Church – John 14:6

The two architectural metaphors show the relationship of the church to the truth:

1. The Church is a "Pillar" (Objective Truth), Guardian and communicator of the Gospel, and its truth.

John 17:17

Revelation 3:12

2. The Church is a "Support"; This term, which means "a firm foundation," ("Subjective"); The local church puts Jesus Christ on display in the lives of faithful members. Must be holy!

Isaiah 59:14

2 Timothy 4:4

Application – The Pillar and Support of the Truth: (Objective) Guardian and communicator of the Gospel truth. (Subjective) The local church puts Jesus Christ on display in the lives of faithful members. Must be holy!

3. Verse 16 – The Substance Of Christian Truth:

1 Tim 3:16

"common confession" – literally means "confessedly, to say the same thing"

The main truth to which a church should bear witness is the Person and Work of Jesus Christ!

"mystery of godliness." – The recognition that God the Son became also God the man and that the divine-human Christ died and rose again.

6 Confessions of Doctrinal Truth Are Stated:

1. "He who was revealed in the flesh,"

John 1:14

2. "Was vindicated in the Spirit," – Romans 1:4

Romans 8:11

Hebrews 9:14

3. "Beheld by angels," – "to see, visit, to observe, to be attended"

Gabriel – Luke 1:26-38

Angels – proclaimed His birth to the shepherds, Luke 2:13-14

4. "Proclaimed among the nations," – Romans 1:16-17

5. "Believed on in the world," – John 1:11-13

1 Timothy 1:15-17

6. "Taken up in glory." – The ascension of the resurrected Christ (Acts 1:2, 11, 22)

Application:

1. To The House of God: Being part of God's house means having a refuge, and the Father's protection. Our love for God and love for each other, along with our mutual submission, should cause the world to long to be part of God's House.
2. Church of The Living God: What makes the Church different from all other gatherings or institutions is that the living God dwells within it! Being called out of the world to dwell with God, mandates holy living.
3. The Pillar and Support of the Truth: (Objective) Guardian and communicator of the Gospel truth. (Subjective) The local church puts Jesus Christ on display in the lives of faithful members. Must be holy!
4. The Main Truth to Which a Church Should Bear Witness is The Person and Work of Jesus Christ.